

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the Appeal Brief filed on August 2, 2007, which paper has been placed of record in the file.
2. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-15, 17-20, 23-32, 35-41, 44-56, 60-62, and 73-81 are pending in this application.

### *Examiner's Amendment*

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in the interview with the attorney of record Pristing Johannessen on October 1, 2007.

Claim 55 is amended as: <sup>12</sup>line 9, replacing the phrase "steps (1) and (2)" by the phrase "the preceding steps."

### *Allowable Subject Matter/Reasons for Allowance*

4. Claims 1, 15, 29, 38, 47, 51, and 55 are allowed over the prior arts cited records.

The closest prior arts are:

1) May (US 6,421,653) discloses an internet-protocol based anonymous trading system which enables traders to identify bids and offers which they are eligible to trade based upon a color coded methodology which gives the trader credit preference

11/14/07